

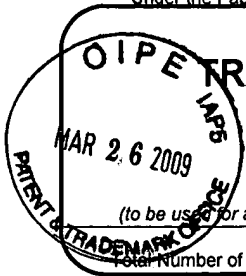
1795

PTO/SB/21 (02-09)

Approved for use through 03/31/2009. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/521,874
Filing Date	July 25, 2005
First Named Inventor	Ralf Spitzl
Art Unit	1795
Examiner Name	Kishor Mayekar
Attorney Docket Number	RO0968US (#90568)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

6

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): return postcard receipt
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	D. Peter Hochberg Co., L.P.A.		
Signature			
Printed name	D. Peter Hochberg		
Date	March 24, 2009	Reg. No.	24,603

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature			
Typed or printed name	Sean Mellino	Date	03/24/2009

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Effective on 12/08/2004.

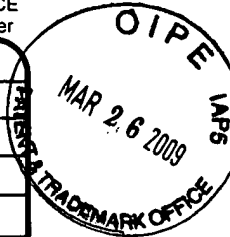
Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

FEE TRANSMITTAL
For FY 2009☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 0.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/521,874
Filing Date	July 25, 2005
First Named Inventor	Ralf Spitzl
Examiner Name	Kishor Mayekar
Art Unit	1795
Attorney Docket No.	RO0968US (#90568)

**METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)**

☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☒ None ☐ Other (please identify): _____

☒ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 08-2441 Deposit Account Name: D. Peter Hochberg Co., L.P.A.

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee

☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 ☒ Credit any overpayments

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FEE CALCULATION**1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	330	165	540	270	220	110	
Design	220	110	100	50	140	70	
Plant	220	110	330	165	170	85	
Reissue	330	165	540	270	650	325	
Provisional	220	110	0	0	0	0	

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)
Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)	52	26
Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)	220	110
Multiple dependent claims	390	195

Total Claims **Extra Claims** **Fee (\$)** **Fee Paid (\$)**

_____ - 20 or HP = _____ x _____ = _____

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.

Indep. Claims **Extra Claims** **Fee (\$)** **Fee Paid (\$)**

_____ - 3 or HP = _____ x _____ = _____

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$270 (\$135 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
_____	_____	_____	135.00	0.00

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): _____

SUBMITTED BY

Signature		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	24,603	Telephone	216-771-3800
Name (Print/Type)	D. Peter Hochberg	Date	March 24, 2009		

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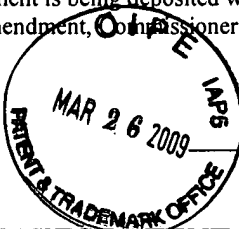
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Date:

March 24, 2009



Sean Mellino

Sean Mellino

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ralf Spitzl, et al.
Serial No. : 10/521,874 (Conf. No. 1240)
Filing Date : July 25, 2005
Title : PLASMA REACTOR FOR CARRYING OUT
GAS REACTIONS AND METHOD FOR THE
PLASMA-SUPPORTED REACTION OF GASES
Examiner (Art Unit) : Kishor Mayekar / 1795
Attorney Docket : RO0968US (#90568)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Reply to Office Action Issued February 24, 2009

Dear Sir:

Claims 1-23 are pending in the instant application. The Examiner has concluded that restriction to one of the following two groups is necessary:

Group I - Claims 1-7 and 13-17, drawn to a device for carrying out gas reactions.
Group II - Claims 8-12 and 18-23, drawn to a method for carrying out gas reactions.

The Examiner explains in the Office action that the inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features since all groups are directed to a device and method for carrying out gas reactions, but each group has different technical features. The Examiner further states that Group I has a special technical feature directed to a device for carrying out gas reactions with a flow-reduced zone formed in a gas flow not required for Group II. Alternatively, the Examiner states that Group II has a special technical feature directed to a method for carrying out gas reactions with a microwave-excited plasma and flow-reduced plasma zone formed in a gas flow not required for Group I.

The Applicants respond to the instant restriction requirement, *with traverse*. It is respectfully submitted that the claims of Group I are directed to a device for carrying out gas reactions comprising a plasma reactor with a through-flow of gases, a plasma chamber, adjustable flow forming elements for forming a gas stream in the plasma chamber, and a zone of reduced gas flow. On the other hand, the claims of Group II are directed to a method for carrying out gas reactions and to convert the components by passing a stream of gas through a device according to claim 1 comprising a plasma reactor, a plasma chamber, adjustable flow forming elements and a zone of reduced gas flow.

It is submitted that since the present invention claims a device for carrying out plasma reactions and a method for carrying out plasma reactions in which the device is used, the present invention fulfills the requirements for unity according to PCT Rule 13.1.

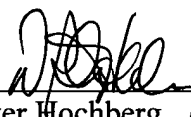
Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the Applicants' position is in agreement with that of the international search authority since no such objection for lack of unity of the present invention was lodged in the IPER.

The above notwithstanding, the Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I (which includes claims 1-7 and 13-17, drawn to a device for carrying out gas reactions) for further prosecution on the merits thereof.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if there are any remaining issues to be discussed which could expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 24, 2009

By: 
D. Peter Hochberg
Reg. No. 24,603

D. Peter Hochberg Co., L.P.A.
1940 E. 6th St. - 6th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114-2294
(216) 771-3800
DPH/SM